

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 27, as follows.

Those skilled in the art will realize that edit distances may be more complex than that just described. For example, an edit distance between words ~~a words~~ “tame” and “lame” may be less than one, because it is likely that a writer simply did not cross the “t” in the word. Note that the edit distance measure in this case increases from that calculated in the example of the last paragraph. As another example, an edit distance between the words “man” and “can” may be larger than one, because it is unlikely that the characters “m” and “c” would be written in a confusingly similar manner.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 1, as follows.

Referring now to FIG. 6, a system 600 is shown for performing and using multiple recognitions of a handwritten document. System 600 is similar to system 200. Consequently, only differences between the two systems will mainly be discussed herein. System 600 comprises an ink file repository 210, an ink manager 225, ink archive 240, ink SDK 645, query engine 250, index builder 255, retrieval index archive 660, and GUI 265. The ink files repository 210 comprises a document 211 that comprises a handwritten word 212 of the typewritten word “cat.” Retrieval index archive 160 comprises a document stack 661. FIG. 6 also shows document stacks 680, queries 270, 271, 272, 273, and 274, and an ordered list of documents 290. Document stacks 280 comprise document stacks 684 and 685. Ink SDK 645 comprises a handwritten recognizer 630 and configuration 660, which further comprises configurations 650 through 655. In the example of FIG. 6, only one handwriting recognizer is shown. Multiple handwriting recognizers may be used. A first word stack can be created from at least one word by using a first handwriting recognizer, and a second word stack can be created from at least one word by using a second handwriting recognizer. A determination of whether a document should be retrieved can then be made by comparing the first and second word stacks with a third word stack.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 6, as follows.

Thus, FIGS. 5 and 6 show a method and system that provides better retrieval results because multiple handwriting recognizers are used to determine multiple document stacks for words in handwritten documents. One handwriting recognizer may
5 be able to transcribe a word better than another handwriting recognizer. For example, a handwriting recognizer can be configured to recognize printed words better than cursive words. This recognizer may recognize some words with more accuracy than would a handwriting recognizer ~~this~~ that is configured for cursive handwriting.